

# **The Literacy Connection**

Yukon Literacy Coalition

**Friday March.25, 2011**

*The Yukon Literacy Coalition is a Yukon-wide literacy organization that is community governed and committed to supporting and encouraging literacy in all languages of the Yukon.*



*Greetings from the Yukon Literacy Coalition!*

## **Important Dates:**

**National Volunteer Week**  
**Yukon Education Week 2010**  
**Canada Book Day**

**April 10-16, 2011**  
**April 11-15, 2011**  
**April 23, 2011**

**TD Canada Trust Family Literacy Centre (FLC) – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Canada Games Centre**

April Saturdays are going to be packed with fabulous projects for children and families!!!

Stephanie Parker, with many years experience leading educational arts projects in Northern Schools, will facilitate 3 Art & Story projects.

Saturdays through March and April. Ages: 8-12, with parents. 12 – 2 pm

### **Peace Banners**

April 2, 9

What is Peace? What does it look like, and what do you want to say about it? We'll explore stories of Peace around the world, and collaborate with the group to create a future World Peace. Paint your own wall-hanging Peace Banner with words and symbols for Peace.

## **On the Land Block Print Poster**

April 16, 23, 30

Show your stories on the Land and learn how to print! Block printing opens a world of words, images, collage and creativity. Carve your own printing blocks with words and symbols about being On the Land, and print your own On the Land poster.

**Please register for these free programs by calling 668-8698.**

Check out the full FLC winter/spring schedule on the YLC website  
<http://www.yukonliteracy.ca/flc.htm> or phone 867-668-8698.

## **What's New?**

### ***Nationwide Research***

You are invited to be part of a Nationwide Research Project  
The Mental Health Commission of Canada is looking for youth to participate as focus group participants in a Nationwide Research project. For more information or to apply contact Christine Garinger at 519-858-3502 ext 8604 <http://mindyourmind.ca/nationwide>

## **Community News**

### ***Yukon Learn - Computer Schedule for March***

Intro to MS Word 9am -12pm March.28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>

Contact them at 867-668-6280 or <http://www.yukonlearn.com/>

### ***The Japanese Village Festival***

Help raise funds for the Japan Earthquake/Tsunami Relief effort.  
Sunday, April 3 from 1 to 4pm at Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre.  
Admission is \$5 per person and the accompanied children are admitted free.

### ***ArtShare Fundraiser***

Thursday April 14th 5 to 7pm – Old Fire Hall

Proceeds will go to:

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library - a Yukon Family Literacy Program in partnership with Yukon Literacy Coalition – <http://www.yukonliteracy.ca/library.htm>  
and the Shelter Box – International Disaster Relief <http://www.shelterboxcanada.org/index.php>

## **Literacy in the News**

### ***American idiots: A tale of two civic literacy studies***

I never thought I'd use a Green Day song as a post title, but here we are.

Newsweek recently ran a story about a civic literacy test they conducted. And the results were not good. <http://washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/opinion-zone/2011/03/american-idiots-tale-two-civic-literacy-studies>

## **Indian newspaper sales jump with rising literacy rate**

ALFAJ ALI smiles as another customer approaches his newspaper stand, close to Kolkata's swarming central train station. "It's a good business," he says, passing over a copy of the Bengal Post and tucking the proceeds - about 2.5 rupees (5.5 cents) - into a sock. "Every year I sell more. These days everybody wants a newspaper."

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/media/indian-newspaper-sales-jump-with-rising-literacy-rate/story-e6frg996-1226025384792>

## **Contests**

### **Canadian Aboriginal Arts and Writing Challenge**

Deadline: March 31st, 2011

Are you an Aboriginal Canadian between the ages of 14-29? Showcase your talent and creativity, have your work reviewed by the foremost Aboriginal storytellers! You could win cash prizes and even have your work published in a national magazine! <http://www.our-story.ca/wc>

### **Yukon College Photo Contest**

Why I love the Yukon! Yukon College is holding a photo contest on the Yukon College Facebook page. Capture an outstanding image of why you love Yukon for your chance to win. Entries will be judged by a 4 person panel, including guest photographer Cathie Archbould. Prizes will be awarded to the top three photographs.

Entries will be accepted up until Friday, April 15th, 2011 at 4 p.m.

Winners will be announced April 22nd, 2011 on the Yukon College Facebook page.

Prizes:

1st place: Sony W570 Cyber-shot Digital Camera - \$200 value

2nd place: \$100 iTunes gift certificate

3rd place: \$50 Yukon College Bookstore Gift Card

How to Enter:

Step 1: Go to the Yukon College Facebook page, become a fan and post your photo with the statement, Why I love Yukon

Step 2: Complete the entry form provided at [www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/whyiloveyukon/](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/whyiloveyukon/).

Step 3: E-mail the entry form and photograph to [collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:collegerelations@yukoncollege.yk.ca), before April 15, 2011, by 4pm.

Please place Why I Love Yukon in the subject line of your email. You will receive a confirmation of your submission within one to two business days. (Please be sure to read the rules!)

### **Arctica's Writing Space Contest**

Submit poetry, creative non-fiction and short fiction that explores the theme of space and the circumpolar region. Deadline is midnight April 1, 2011. Email entries to

[WritingSpace@ArcticaMag.ca](mailto:WritingSpace@ArcticaMag.ca) or submit online to Arctica Magazine.

<http://www.arcticamag.ca/current-issue/1-today/70-writing-space-contest.html>

## **Conferences, Workshops, and Awards**

### **National Screen Institute looking for Inuit and Aboriginal adults for film training program**. Deadline: March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011

News release - NSI New Voices, run by Canada's National Screen Institute (NSI), is looking for nine talented Canadian Aboriginal adults aged 18 to 35 who are seeking careers in film and TV. This training program will connect students with industry professionals through skills development training and an eight week full-time industry work placement. The program begins the last week of April and takes place in Winnipeg, Manitoba. [http://www.nsi-canada.ca/nsi\\_new\\_voices\\_faq.aspx](http://www.nsi-canada.ca/nsi_new_voices_faq.aspx)

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Take Advantage of the NOLS Local Scholarship Program!**

The National Outdoor Leadership School, is a non-profit organization that offers expeditions teaching leadership, wilderness skills, technical travel skills, and environmental studies.

Available this 2011 summer:

1) 2 x \$3000 scholarships to Yukoners under 30 years of age toward one of the following courses:

- 30-day Backpacking
- 30-day Backpacking and Canoeing
- 30-day Outdoor Educator Backpacking and Canoeing
- for descriptions go to: [www.nols.edu/courses/locations/yukon/](http://www.nols.edu/courses/locations/yukon/)

2) numerous \$500 and \$1000 Scholarships (potential for more depending on funding) toward:  
- 21-day Yukon Youth Wilderness Leadership Summer Camp (ages 14-18)

APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15TH

E-mail [yukon@nols.edu](mailto:yukon@nols.edu), or contact BYTE: [info@yukonyouth.com](mailto:info@yukonyouth.com) or the Boys and Girls Club of Whitehorse: [daveblottner@gmail.com](mailto:daveblottner@gmail.com) for information and application forms.

### **Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities**

The Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities provides funding for national, regional and local projects that assist people with disabilities in preparing for and finding employment or self-employment, as well as acquiring the skills necessary to maintain that new employment. For more information go to:

[http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability\\_issues/funding\\_programs/opportunities\\_fund/index.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/funding_programs/opportunities_fund/index.shtml)

### **Aboriginal Funding Tool**

There are some deadlines for scholarships, bursaries, etc. that are coming up. Visit the Aboriginal Canada Portal at <http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/acp/site.nsf/en/funding.html>

### **New First Nations Literacy Resources**

For more information go to: <http://firstnationliteracy.com/>

## Resources

### **AlphaPlus Pathfinders**

AlphaPlus pathfinders are guides on specific topics that help you quickly find relevant websites and information to support your literacy practice. Find AlphaPlus at

<http://alphaplus.ca/newsupdates.asp?eventID=275>

### **Canadian Heritage Aboriginal Peoples' Program**

The Aboriginal Peoples' Program (APP) supports the full participation and cultural revitalization of Aboriginal People in Canadian society. It enables Aboriginal Peoples to address the social, cultural, economic and political issues affecting their lives. Find resources and more at

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/pa-app/index-eng.cfm>

### **Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Yukon**

To help you support your child's French learning, CPF Yukon is offering current and new members a half price subsidy towards adult French classes offered through either L'association franco-yukonnaise or the French Language Services Directorate. Spaces are limited to first-come, first-serve. For more information, contact [yukoncpf@gmail.com](mailto:yukoncpf@gmail.com) or call 667-8611.

### **Canadian Council on Learning**

The Canadian Council on Learning is a rich resource related to learning throughout all stages of life, from early childhood through to the senior years. Visit their site at <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/ccl>

### **CYFN Language Classes**

The Council of Yukon First Nations is offering language classes FREE of charge to the general public. Contact Anna Fraser at 393-9200 for more information!

### **Healthy Aboriginal Network**

Youth Comic Books for social and health issues. For more information go to:

<http://www.thehealthyaboriginal.net/>

### **Kaska Language Lessons**

Liard First Nation Language Coordinator, Leda Jules will be offering language lessons every Tuesday and Thursday @ the Community Lunches located at the 2 Mile Community Hall in Watson Lake. So please come out and enjoy lunch served with free language lessons. Souga sin la! For more information please call 867.536.2912.

### **Ningwakwe Learning Press Resources**

Ningwakwe Learning Press publishes culturally appropriate resources for the Aboriginal literacy field in North America. This Ontario-based company has several new releases. Its catalogue can be found at <http://ningwakwe.on.ca/catalogue.htm>

### **The Training Policy Committee -- 2010 Training Program Handbook**

This handbook identifies public, private and volunteer organizations that offer credit and non-credit training and educational opportunities for Yukon people. Contact the Training Policy Committee for copies at [tpced@northwestel.net](mailto:tpced@northwestel.net) or 867-668-7812

### **The Vanier Institute of the Family**

This site has some excellent resources for parents. Go to:  
<http://www.vifamily.ca/library/resources/resources.html>

### **Daily Sudoku**

<http://www.cbc.ca/diversions/sudoku/>

Contact us if you have suggestions for our newsletter!

### **Yukon Literacy Coalition**

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